

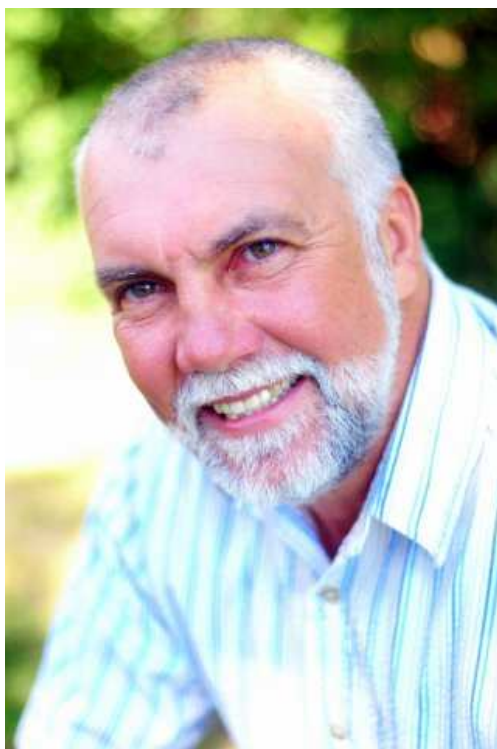


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Cremer Media's  
**ENGINEERING NEWS** Online

**Jean-Francois Talbot**

By: Martin Zhuwakinyu  
 Published: 01 May 09



**Full Name:** Jean-Francois Talbot  
**Position:** Director of Talbot & Talbot  
**Main Activity of the Company:** Water and energy recovery from wastewater  
**Date and Place of Birth:** February, 16, 1955, Curepipe, Mauritius  
**Education:** BSc (chemistry and zoology), University of Cape Town, 1979; MSc (zoology), 1982, University of Port Elizabeth; PhD (oceanography), 1988, University of Port Elizabeth  
 First jJb: Researcher, University of Port Elizabeth  
**Career History Prior to Current Position:** Marine research, National Research Institute for Oceanography. Founded Talbot & Talbot (Pty) Ltd. in 1988  
**Size of first pay packet:** R600  
**First job with present group:** Founded the Company  
**Value of Assets under Your Control:** Talbot & Talbot is an intellectual property-based company  
**Number of People under Your Leadership:** 74

**Management Style:** Collegiate, participatory, output driven

**Personal Best Achievement:** Overcoming my fear of heights

**Professional Best Achievement:** Building Talbot & Talbot into a global player

**Person Who Has Had the Biggest Influence on Your Life:** My brother and business partner, Bernard Talbot

**Person Who Has Had the Biggest Influence on Your Career:** No one in particular, but the works of Jacques Cousteau stimulated my areas of interest

**Person You Would Most Like to Meet:** Bill Gates

**Businessperson Who Has Impressed You Most:** Richard Branson

**Philosophy of Life:** Tackle life by the horns

**Biggest Ever Opportunity:** A loan for my first year of study at university

**Biggest Ever Disappointment:** Failure of my first overseas business attempt

**Hope for the Future:** That South Africa becomes a real rainbow nation with no racial differentiation

**Favourite Reading:** Popular science and biographies

**Favourite TV programme:** National Geographic

**Favourite Food/Drink:** Good bread and cheese/wine

**Favourite Music:** Classical and 80s music

**Favourite Sport:** Rugby and touch rugby

**Favourite Website:** Googleearth

**Hobbies:** Exploring the world on horseback

**Car:** Land Rover

**Pets:** Dogs

**Miscellaneous Dislikes:** Negative attitudes, self-pity

**Favourite Other South African Company:** South African Breweries

**Favourite Foreign Company:** Microsoft

**Married:** Janine Lucarne, April, 19, 1997

**Children:** Kirsten, 24; Tarrin, 23; Sheri, 20; Holly, 19

**Clubs:** Virgin active

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